

The Times-Dispatch

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TARIFF REVISION BY SCHEDULES.

Tariff revision cannot begin too soon to please the American people. Any what amounted to a referendum they have decided in favor of a positive revision downward. Woodrow Wilson and the Democratic chiefs are right in making this the chief business of a special session to be called by the middle of March. They are right in beginning the practical discussion and arrangement for the new duties now. Any procrastination, any quibbling or evasion, any failure to live up to clean-cut promises will be fatal.

But already there is argument as to whether the revision shall be made in bulk or by separate schedules. This problem should be settled at once, and in favor of the individual schedule plan. The people do not want to try to judge of the merits of a thousand different items massed confusingly in one bill. They are not expert enough, nor have they the time and information, to pass on a comprehensive bill, parts of which are good and parts of which are bad. They want the opportunity to scrutinize each separate schedule and know what it means. They are after results. They want the facts stated clearly and simply. They want no mystery about what is being done.

The passage of all the schedules in a single body gives admirable chance for log-rolling and trading. It enables the tariff-makers to exchange favors. The theory that the tariff is a local issue, and that if you vote for me on wool, I'll vote for you on lumber, has been discredited. The people want a national tariff revision, not a sectional one. They want each schedule discussed and a vote taken that will define absolutely the position of every man in Congress on that item. In the omnibus form, representatives that are pledged to revision downward may vote for particular amendments that protect their private interests, and yet by citing their votes on the whole bill defend their records. If there is to be any exchange of favors or log-rolling, the people want to get the favors and have the logs rolled in the right direction.

The objection that the leaders know what the various schedules will be in advance, and so can trade even if the parts are taken up singly, means nothing. They will not have the concealment of a complicated bill, and on each item the vote will be a plain record of their attitude. Nor does the argument that the total revenue producing ability of the revised tariff cannot be determined if the items are passed one at a time, threaten any real danger. The men back of the tariff reduction will have a framework of what they expect the new schedules to produce in their minds. They will run no risk of cutting separate items off heavily that the total will not produce the revenue demanded by the government. The general outlines of the chemical, metals and cotton and woolen schedules have already been before Congress. There was no trouble in apportioning to each its full share of the revenue burden.

The passage of each separate large schedule with a clean-cut vote regardless of other schedules is the sole method that can give the people confidence in the work of their representatives.

RECOGNIZING CHINA'S REPUBLIC.

It might be well to go a little slow to look a little further before we leap, in the matter of the proposition now being agitated for the immediate recognition of the Chinese republic. In the situation nothing would be especially gained by China from recognition. She could lose little by delay. On the other side, we could gain nothing by being precipitate, and might lose a good deal in the way of inviting future foreign complications and antagonisms by taking a step that would be beyond recall. As the new standards we are in position to show the de facto government all the friendliness it merits, without hampering ourselves with pledges, moral and other, full diplomatic relations consequent upon recognition would include. From the viewpoint of sentiment, tradition and our own principles, the proposition to recognize "a sister republic" appeals to the nation. But is China a republic? That is the practical question.

Proclaiming a republic does not create or establish one. Since the Russo-Japanese War particularly, China has made rapid progress in assimilating Occidental ideas and methods. How much below the surface, however, this process goes we do not know; how far it extends to China as a whole, is not in evidence. The American people have no proof that the powers that be at Peking represent the majority of the Chinese masses, or that it is within their ability to enforce order, protect life and property, or carry out the provisions of treaties.

There has been no electoral expres-

sion of popular sentiment regarding republican institutions, on which to base a conclusion that a stable governmental regime has been attained. In the last analysis of the problem the government consists of self-appointed leaders of the late revolution; the President and the so-called National Assembly are the beneficiaries of intrigue and combinations and cabals among those who engineered the revolt against the dynasty. The nation has not been heard from.

Meanwhile there are rumors of reactionary tendencies even among the republicans themselves, and suggestions from Peking that only through the negotiation of heavy foreign loans can the republic be saved. Meanwhile, moreover, there is no assurance that if the money needed to accomplish its salvation is forthcoming, it will be honestly spent; that it will be devoted to strengthening the existing order, and not be perverted in such manner as to afford some of the powers excuse for territorial acquisition, as security. It would appear, therefore, that wisdom and prudence dictate that we still draw the line at sympathy and continue to pursue our present policy until there shall have been more reassuring and definite developments.

USE PARCELS POST STAMPS FOR ALL PACKAGES.

Because the mistake made by the author of the following communication is so general that ten bushels of parcels are held in the Richmond post-office for the same cause, The Times-Dispatch believes it worth while to give the postal ruling in the matter. From Danville, this gentleman writes: "In your editorial for January 1, headed 'Use the Parcel Post,' you gave instructions as to how to mail such articles as would come under that head, and made use of this expression: 'The parcel must weigh less than eleven pounds and more than four ounces.' On January 2 I attempted to mail a small package of merchandise weighing less than three ounces, and placed 3 cents in letter postage on it. It comes back from the office marked 'Held for Postage.'"

We probably caused the confusion by our statement as to weight. The parcels post carries all parcels from a fraction of an ounce to eleven pounds in weight. But parcels weighing less than four ounces are transmitted at the flat rate of 1 cent an ounce regardless of distance. Those over four ounces are charged for by weight and the zone of their destination. But all packages, to secure these rates, must bear the special parcels post stamps. Our correspondent's package was held for postage because it did not carry the parcels post stamps to secure the cent-an-ounce rate, and not enough letter stamps to transmit it at the first-class rate of 2 cents an ounce. A package can be mailed with letter stamps on it only if it carries postage at the first-class rate.

To secure the old fourth-class rate or the new parcel rate for large packages, the package must be mailed at a parcels post station, and bear parcel post stamps. It must bear the return address of the sender. Small parcels can no longer be mailed at the corner box with ordinary stamps at 1 cent an ounce. You must pay 2 cents an ounce, or take them to the parcels post office.

A MISTAKE OF ORGANIZED LABOR.

In discussing immigration legislation too much emphasis has been placed by labor leaders upon the desirability of excluding skilled and experienced workmen. Persistent efforts have been made to extend the alien contract labor laws, and their rigorous enforcement has been constantly demanded. Although recently labor organizations have in general been favorable to a general restriction of immigration, there has been a general lack of appreciation of the significance of the coming of the unskilled and illiterate immigrant from the south and east of Europe.

Formerly an apprenticeship was required for a great majority of industrial occupations. Under existing conditions this is no longer necessary because the machine has become predominant in mining and manufacturing. Newly arrived immigrants without previous industrial experience are immediately put to work in mills and factories. They are difficult to organize because of diversity of language, their reluctance to make any sacrifice for a future improvement in working and living conditions, and because of the almost inexhaustible supply of this class of cheap labor. As a result of these conditions, the labor organizations of the original class of wage-earners employed in mines and factories have been inundated and disrupted. Scarcely one in every ten recent immigrant industrial workers are affiliated with trade unions. On the other hand, if general restrictions were placed on immigration and, at the same time, more freedom were given to the admission of skilled workers, not only would general industrial conditions be improved, but the labor organizations themselves would be strengthened. Under such a policy, the tendency would be for the number of English, Irish, Scotch and German immigrants to increase. This class of labor has usually been trained in the methods of collective bargaining and action abroad. It has also been the bulwark of the labor movement in this country. With the arrival of increasing numbers of immigrants of this type, our labor supply would not only receive an addition of much-needed skilled recruits and our manufacturing plants on a more efficient basis, but the labor movement itself among industrial workers would be strengthened. The failure to realize this fact is probably due to the predominance in labor councils of the older building trade and other labor organizations which are not affected by recent industrial developments.

A similar failure to appreciate the significance of existing industrial conditions was evidenced by this class of labor organizations at the recent convention of the American Federation of Labor, when they opposed a resolution providing for the formation of industrial rather than trade unions for workers in mines and mills.

WOMEN AND MORAL POLITICS.

If there be one plain fact of modern government, it is that there is a moral politics as well as a money politics. The progress of civilization has brought us to perceive that the State is concerned with moral morals more directly than ever before. It is no longer possible to look upon government as an economic affair. The London Nation uses this premise to show how woman's instinctive moral sense will inevitably draw her into politics, because the new problems are those in which her peculiar talents will be profoundly useful.

The Nation points out that, although women in America have always been powers in social, religious, charitable and educational fields, they have hitherto taken a small part in the purely political life of the country. It instances three reasons. First, that politics in the United States has not drawn the best class of the people, because it degenerated into a vulgar and sordid game largely played by professionalists, and has been so largely concerned with bewildering and artificially complicated questions of tariff, railways, banking, currency and economics that it exerted no attraction for women, who are stirred by the questions that directly affect character and individual life. Second, there is no social distinction to be won in this country in political life. The manoeuvres of the machine and the bosses offered no chance for the indirect influence of the political salon. Politics has never offered to the social leader the absorbing and many-sided employment that it has given women of the English governing class. Lastly, the freedom of the American woman in other spheres and the abolition of traditional disabilities has made her lose the collective sense of sex in enjoyment of personal privileges.

The new spirit of American life is calling for the service of women. The issues of the time are those they understand. Even the tariff is perceived to be a home-making problem. As the Nation words its conclusion:

It is not only that the people are losing patience with the old incantations and the meaningless rigidities of the parties; it is also that they are approaching public questions from a definitely moral point of view, with a new set of ideals and aspirations; and it is also that problems of social reform, of the conditions under which the masses live and labor, are at last replacing the unrealities of the old political schools.

These are problems that particularly concern women.

The proper direction of this moral force is a vital issue. Probably a small number of Virginia women want the vote to-day, but what of five and ten years from now? The events of the past few months prove how important the question is becoming. It is no longer speculative. When the New York World, cold and logical and dispassionate, favors submitting the question of woman's suffrage to the State, it means a real condition, not a theory. Evolution has brought us to the time when the moral strength of women is needed in public life. We must face the issue of using this moral power in the best way.

A BETTER RAILROAD SITUATION.

The financial condition of the railroads has been improving during the past few months. Net earnings are showing an upward trend, the volume of business is increasing, and the forthcoming revision of the tariff promises some decrease in operating costs. The most untoward circumstance in the immediate present, from the point of view of the railroad manager, probably consists in the general and insistent demands from almost all classes of employes for higher rates of remuneration. Railroad officials, however, in their public utterances relative to the near future are generally optimistic. They look for a continuance and possibly an advance over the present favorable condition of affairs. Ultimately, they do not expect the finances of the railroads to be placed upon a proper basis until a general advance in freight charges is authorized by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The indications are that an effort will soon be made by the carriers to obtain higher freight rates, and, in anticipation of this action, the shippers and the radical elements in the railroad situation are endeavoring to secure the passage of pending legislation in Congress providing for the physical valuation of railroad properties to be used as a basis for rate making.

The V. M. I. cadets would make the best background for Woodrow Wilson's inauguration we can think of, unless it might be the Staunton policeman.

Come on, Cold Wave, and don't keep me scared about the coal pile any longer.

Pittsburgh is to have a prehistoric dinosaur, claimed to be the biggest prehistoric freak ever discovered. It ought to feel at home along with some of the Pittsburgh octopi.

Life certainly is one thing after another. Here somebody has already opened a 1913 campaign headquarters.

St. Louis society has barred the hand-shake as a bore. It is strange it allows itself to talk.

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

The Old Fashioned Man.

The things that I am fond of the four hundred never eat.
The clothing that I dote on is considered indecent.
My friends all confessed exercise when ever I take my ease,
And when I exercise they say I'll bring on heart disease.
The music that is proper is all of a classic style.
For me the old-time heart songs have it beaten by a mile.

My books are not by Henry James, although he is in fact.
I like the tales that Thackeray and Walter Scott relate.
I don't like plays by Bernard Shaw. I'm very much afraid
I'd rather see the standard kind that Charlotte Cushman played.
The name of wolf, I must confess, I do not know at all.
Somehow my instinct seems to run to common old baseball.

At bridge, which is the stylish game, I'm green as any monk.
My research has included only Pedro, sledge and tunk.
I don't like ten course dinners where you wait and eat and wait;
I'd rather sit down family style with plenty on my plate.
I don't like standup collars, for they always saw my neck.
A silk hat makes me feel just like a corn doctor, by heck.

With high falutin' goin's on, I'm always out of tune.
And sit home quiet by the fire I'd always just as soon.
I've oft been told by stylish folks that I am out of date;
That I was put upon this earth one century too late.
The other folks can think me odd, I don't care what they say.
I'm pretty middlin' happy in my own old-fashioned way.

Rubes.

Here is one of Julius Tannen's latest:
A New York City minstrel company had found hard luck in the West. Business had been fearful and the troupe struck Pleasant Valley without a cent.

It was a cold, drizzly night. The company had arrived late and it was decided to make a street parade at 6 o'clock. Every one was hungry and they wanted 45 cents in the mud with the cold wind whistling around their legs. On both sides of the street were well lighted homes. Families eating their suppers could be seen through the windows by the tired and hungry minstrels from New York.

"It looks nice in there," said the 13 fat cornet player with a sigh. "Those are the people we call 'rubes.'"

Caught on the Fly.

Vincent Astor says he is too busy to fall in love. This seems a shame, as Vincent is one of the few who can really afford it.

An eastern savant is advocating a universal brotherhood, but there will never be one so long as Taft and the Colonel are on earth.

Kaiser Wilhelm is criticized for hobnobbing with the rich. Yes, a man in his position can't be too careful of his reputation.

But the telegraph and the telephone companies would certainly prefer to have the Colonel stay at Oyster Bay and do his inspiring at long distance.

It is said the Sultan of Turkey cannot read the hand-writing on the wall. Maybe some lawyer wrote it. New York paper headlines the following: "Auto Speeders Must Go." Well, they do and too fast.

London has 9,000 milk shops, but a good many more milk sops.

Voice of the People

Dr. S. C. Mitchell for President of V. P. I.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—Patrons and friends of the V. P. I. and Virginia citizens generally, are awaiting with considerable interest the action of the board of trustees in electing a president to succeed Dr. Barringer. The press of the State has rightly emphasized two vital points—first, that the board should secure the best man possible for the place, and second, that if he cannot be found in Virginia, he should be sought elsewhere. Let us hope that the best man can be found somewhere in the South.

Various newspapers and contributors thereto have given expression to the general type of man needed, and in some cases individual names have been mentioned. As a friend of the V. P. I. and interested in the large work of technical education, I desire a word or two as to the presidency of this great school.

Some have stated that an agricultural specialist is needed at the head of the V. P. I. Others have contended for a man of military training, and still others for a man of general affairs. The uppermost question, it seems to me, that is before the board of visitors is simply this: Who is the man best fitted for the place? If an agricultural specialist can be found who is broad enough to meet the demands of the V. P. I., he may be the right man. If a man of military training can be found, who is likewise well trained and experienced in other lines, he might prove to be the best man. The writer, however, does not believe that it is the man specially trained in agriculture, military or en-

Abe Martin



Ever once in a while we see a sensible woman wear a becoming hat. Next a long tongue sticks out of her mouth that she can do much damage as a cheap plumber.

A LAW FOR THE CONSERVATION OF APPENDIXES.

By John T. McCutcheon.

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The next Colorado legislature may pass a law making it a misdemeanor, or felony, for a doctor to remove perfectly good appendix. The doctor will be required to show that the appendix he has taken was diseased. Men doctors declare that 50 per cent of the appendices taken off are all right.

WANT TO INSPECT NEXT V. P. I. HEAD OFFICERS LEAVE FOURTH INFANTRY

Committee of Visitors Will Ask for Money to Permit of Personal Visits.

Five Quit Service in One Day, Probably Because of Readjustments.

Feeling that further investigation of the merits of men suggested to succeed Dr. Paul B. Barringer as president of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute should be had, the committee of the board of visitors in charge of the matter will ask for a small appropriation to defray the necessary expenses. It is probable, therefore, that the board will be called to meet within a few days.

Senator John B. Watkins, of Chesterfield, a member of the committee, went to Lynchburg yesterday to confer with B. F. Kirkpatrick, of that city, and John Thompson Brown, of Bedford, both fellow-members of the body, having in charge a recommendation of a suitable man for the presidency. H. M. Smith, Jr., of Richmond, is the fourth member of the committee.

Several names are still being considered in connection with the position. But members of the committee feel they would like to see the possibilities face to face, regarding this as a more satisfactory way of judging of the men in their own fields. Inasmuch as money is necessary to pay expenses of traveling, it is intended to ask the board for an appropriation for this purpose. It is altogether unlikely that the committee will be ready to report to the board at the coming meeting.

Kaiser to Fruit-Growers.

Commissioner George W. Kolner, of the Department of Agriculture, will deliver an address to-morrow before the Virginia Horticultural Society, which will be in session in Lynchburg.

Four officers of the Fourth Virginia Infantry resigned their commissions yesterday, while another member of the same command was placed on the retired list. It is very evident that so many changes must come from readjustments caused by the recent election of a new colonel for the regiment.

In fact, such a statement is frankly made by Captain David S. Einstein, captain and quartermaster of the Fourth, who says that the new commanding officer should have the right to choose his own staff. Captain Einstein was an appointee of the former colonel, T. J. Nottingham, who has been succeeded by E. E. Goodwyn.

Captain William Moonfield, of Company M, Fourth Infantry, at Emporia, resigns for business reasons. Captain Charles H. Banks, ordnance department, assistant inspector of small arms practice for the Fourth Infantry, tenders his resignation.

Captain H. C. Robie, regimental commissary, Fourth Infantry, is retired, having completed ten years of service with the Virginia Volunteers. Second Lieutenant Elias A. Lester, quartermaster and commissary of the Second Battalion, Fourth Infantry, on the staff of Major P. L. Curtis, resigns because he can no longer give his time to the work of his office.

To Install Officers.

Officers will be installed for the year at the meeting of Colonial Camp, No. 33, Order of the Golden Seal, to be held in Smith Hall to-night.

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